

### **Submission of Replacement Drawing Sheets**

Submitted herewith are replacement formal drawings for Figs. 1, 5, 6 and 10 so as to provide reference numerals 100, 200 and 700 (in Figs. 1, 6 and 10, respectively) as referenced in the specification. In addition, the replacement drawings include a correction of the spelling of "open" in block S2 in Fig. 5. Also, in Fig. 10, reference numerals 706 and 709 and their corresponding lead lines have been deleted since these reference numerals were not described in the specification.

### **REMARKS**

By this amendment, claim 1 has been cancelled, and claims 2-5 and 7 have been amended. Thus, claims 2-7 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The specification and abstract have been carefully reviewed and revised to make grammatical and idiomatic improvements in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are incorporated in the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and Abstract by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

In item 3 on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims 2-7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, claim 1 has been cancelled, and claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim 1. Claims 3-7 depend from claim 2. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 2-7 are clearly allowable in view of the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 2-7.

It is noted that a few revisions have been made to claims 3-5 and 7 in order to improve U.S. form and English grammar of the claims.


We also submit herewith replacement formal drawings for Figs. 1, 5, 6 and 10 so as to provide reference numerals 100, 200 and 700 (in Figs. 1, 6 and 10, respectively) as referenced in the specification. In addition, the replacement drawings include a correction of the spelling of "open" in block S2 in Fig. 5. Also, in Fig. 10, reference numerals 706 and 709 and their corresponding lead lines have been deleted since these reference numerals were not described in the specification.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Yuichi ISHIHARA et al.

By:   
Charles R. Watts  
Registration No. 33,142  
Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
October 16, 2007